ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a sharpening process of image data using a Laplacian operation, a parameter k for controlling the size of a Laplacian to be subtracted from an original image, a parameter θ for suppressing influences of noise and a parameter λ for suppressing an overshoot and an undershoot are respectively provided, and these parameters are altered in accordance with the state of an original image. Thus, it becomes possible to carry out the sharpening process on the image data without causing emphasized noise and occurrences of an overshoot and an undershoot.